

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

- B-143*
1. Thanks to Al Baris & Committee ... this meeting, from cocktails on is fruit their effort
 2. Reminds me story Southern Baptist preacher weakness for fruit liqueurs... member offered him gift whole case, but one condition: acknowledge from pulpit. Tjis too much an offense against dignity even for So. Baptist, so idea: announced -- thank Mr. Johnson for his lovely gift of fruit -- and also ~~the~~ for the spirit in which it came.... so here...
 3. Pleasure to welcome you to synagogue ..ministered for close to four decades one of most distinguished rabbis...
 4. Take advantage of all activities about which you heard tonight... advice to you in terms classical blessing we pronounce on welcoming members to personal family, the equivalent of welcoming you to official Center family: Ke'shem she'nikhnas la-berit ken yikanes le'Torah le'chuppah u'le'maasim tovim. Even as you today enter the covenant of JC membership, so may you take advantage of the Torah -- adult education -- of Chuppah, -- the family or social aspects conducted by our auxiliaries, and Maasim Tovim -- the charitable & philanthropic work for which JC so rightly famous
 5. In ~~inducting~~ you -- do not regard selves as "members" -- but: as BAAL HABAYIT... This is the genuine Jewish term. World of difference:
 MEMBERSHIP -- an affiliation; BAAL HABAYIT -- a comitment
 A Member is unrooted... " grounded, like BAYIT in foundation of J. Ideals
 MEMBERSHIP an expression of sociological desire to belong; B-B: fulfil sacred wish to perpetuate faith
 to be a MEMBER is a fact; to be a B-B is a fate
 Membership is geographical: join this and this place; B-B historical -- attach self to a chain of tradition, arch over generations, span & connect generations
 6. Christians often use term: FLOCK. Denotes inferior-superior relationship, sheep who need guidance & without which are lost. We: B-B -- different functions, but equal...
 7. ARON & BADIM -- would think that Ark itself superior sanctity to bars used to lift it. Yet -- both of same precious metal, gold. Teachers of Torah & patrons of Torah are equally cherished eyes G-d & J Tradition.
 8. That's why two YEKUM PURKUNS -- one for Rabbis (maranan ve'rabanen) & one for B-B (kahala kadisha hadein) -- each deserving full, special mention. When Reform began cutting, excised prayer for B-B -- only true J tradition can appreciate a B-B....
 9. Ask new members rise: pleasure to extend to you hand friendship & welcome. ~~As~~ As I officially welcome you into Center family, urge you to become full partners destiny JC, strive with rest of us for glory Torah & G-d. Consider yourselves BADEI HA-ARON, the bars by which the ark of the JC is carried, the Ark containing the timeless essence of Judaism... give to it the pure gold of your efforts, the golden sincerity in your hearts... be with us -- not like a flock of unthinking & passive sheep, but as B-B -- co-dwellers with the Center Family in the House of the Lord. BARUKH HABA BESHEM HASHEM BERAKHNUKHEM MIBET HASHEM

crit - just fabulous!